

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-05 LAB-04 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00

SWF-01 CIEP-01 FRB-01 OMB-01 /046 W

----- 074397

R 040920Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3100

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUANDA 1054

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EAGR

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY ANGOLAN COFFEE STATISTICS

REF: A) LUANDA 915; B) STATE 260396

1. A SOURCE IN ANGOLAN COFFEE INSTITUTE (ICA) FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING UNOFFICIAL AND PRELIMINARY STATISTICS:

A. PRODUCTION OCT 1, 1973-SEPT 30, 1974 - 3.5 MILLION SACKS (210 MILLION KG.), 6.7 PERCENT BELOW OCT 1, 1972-SEPT 30, 1973.

B. ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OCT 1, 1974-SEPT 30, 1975 - 3.75 MILLION SACKS (225 MILLION KGS.).

C. ANNUAL INTERNAL CONSUMPTION - 100,000 SACKS (6 MILLION KGS.).

D. STOCKS AS OF SEPT 30, 1974 - 2.87 MILLION SACKS (172.2 MILLION KGS.).

E. EXPORTS OCT 1, 1973-SEPT 30, 1974 - 3.98 MILLION SACKS (239.2 MILLION KGS.) WORTH US\$267 MILLION AT THE OFFICIAL EXCHANGE

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RATE, US\$1.00 - 25\$00.

2. THE 1973-74 PRODUCTION FIGURE IS "ROUND" TO SAY THE LEAST, (AS WELL AS BEING SUSPICIOUSLY IDENTICAL TO THE JANUARY ICA ESTIMATE), BUT BASED ON TRADE CONTACTS WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THE INSTITUTE IS TRYING TO MISLEAD US. THERE ARE TWO REASONS THEY DO NOT HAVE YET A MORE PRECISE FIGURE: FIRST, THE ICA HAS NEVER HAD GOOD PRODUCTION STATISTICS; SECOND, ANGOLAN PRODUCERS HAVE NOT GIVEN THE ICA ACCURATE FIGURES FOR THE LAST CROP YEAR BECAUSE THEY KEPT STOCKS ON THEIR FARMS HOLDING OUT FOR HIGHER PRICES. ADDITIONALLY, THEY DID NOT WANT TO WAREHOUSE THEIR COFFEE IN LUANDA DURING THESE PAST MONTHS OF POLITICAL TENSION AND VIOLENCE.

3. THE 1974-75 ESTIMATE IS VERY OPTIMISTIC AND HAS VALIDITY ONLY IF THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION IN COFFEE PRODUCING AREAS IMPROVES AND THE POLITICAL CONFUSION IN ANGOLA RESOLVES ITSELF PEACEFULLY AND QUICKLY. IN ANY EVENT, SOME PRODUCERS WILL LEAVE ANGOLA NO MATTER WHAT THE POLITICAL OUTCOME, SO THAT IT SEEMS UNLIKELY PRODUCTION WILL APPROACH THE ICA ESTIMATE.

4. THE INTERNAL CONSUMPTION FIGURE IS BUT A ROUGH GUESS AS NO STATISTICS ARE KEPT.
KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: izenbei0
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